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Beck

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends. — James Monroe

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Food and Drug Bill Passed by Congress

New Measure Strengthens Federal Machinery to Protect Consuming Public

IS CLIMAX OF LONG BATTLE

Opposition in Past Prevented Enactment of Law Adequate to Halt Sale of Deadly Drugs

Climaxing a long struggle on the part of consumer groups, Congress in its closing hours passed a bill which will give the government greater control over the sale of food, drugs, and cosmetics. The bill now lies on President Roosevelt's desk and, if it is approved by him, will become law.

Last year Congress discussed the matter of pure food and drug legislation, but it adjourned without passing any bill, and American consumers were once more left with only the protection of an act passed in 1906. A few months later found 93 people dead from poisoning by "elixir of sulfanilamide" which had been distributed in 22 states as a "miraculous cure." Instead of cure it brought agonized death. The doctors who had recommended its use were astounded, for they had not known it contained a deadly solvent. The man whose firm had manufactured it was horrified, for he had not known of the mixture's deadly properties either. But so were many American citizens horrified when the manufacturer stated, "I have broken no law," and no one contradicted him. For what he had said was perfectly true. There was no law to prevent the sale of such a dangerous drug. The Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Agriculture, which administers the Act of 1906, was enabled to proceed against him only because the bottle which contained the drug was not quite properly labeled.

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace and other officials declared that while the 93 deaths were shocking and tragic, they represented only a few of the poisonings that are taking place all the time as a result of falsely advertised drugs, foods, and cosmetics now on the markets. They pointed out further that under the present food and drug law, sales of such articles could not be prevented.

Law 32 Years Old

W. G. Campbell, chief of the Food and Drug Administration, has asserted that even back in 1906 the Act was not a very good one, although it was probably the best that could be passed in the face of the opposition of patent medicine and other manufacturing groups that were lined up against it. Led by Dr. Harvey Wylie, called the "Father of the Food and Drug Act," who as chief of the Bureau of Chemistry in the Department of Agriculture first administered the law, the bill was pushed through Congress and in some respects provided a degree of protection for the consuming public at that time. In the 1906 period, modern high-pressure advertising methods were not yet in vogue. People depended mostly upon what they saw on the shelves of their local drugstore and made their purchases accordingly. Hence, it seemed at the time sufficient that the legislation should confine itself largely to forcing manufacturers to label their products truthfully. The law covered only the advertising on the label itself.

(Concluded on page 8)



IN THE HARBOR OF HONG KONG, CHINA

GALLOWAY

A Mark of Progress

Young men and women frequently lean too heavily upon schools and colleges. They assume that an institution of learning will, by some undefined process, transform the human material passing through it. This is a serious error. A school is a passive thing, rather than an active agency. It is a set of opportunities which the student may seize, but the seizing must come from the initiative and will of the student. If the student, like the institution itself, is passive, nothing of consequence happens.

One distinctive mark of a truly educated person is tolerance and broadmindedness. But it is possible to go through school and college without acquiring it. One may get into the habit of accepting new ideas only when they agree with those he already has. If he does this, he will retain all his old prejudices. Furthermore, the old limitations which rendered his opinions narrow and inadequate will remain. This stoppage of development is experienced if one becomes angry and combative when confronted by a set of facts which run counter to the facts or assumed facts with which he is familiar. When one rejects without examination ideas which are disagreeable to him, he is closing his mind to possible growth. One who is quick to impute unworthy motives to those who advance opinions he does not like is showing the marks of narrowness and ignorance rather than those of the educated man.

The man or woman with trained intellect will not throw aside his opinions whenever a new idea is advanced. But neither will he resent the new idea. He will examine it on its merits. He will be adding constantly to his store of facts and opinions, enlarging them, throwing them aside when necessary, or modifying them in the process of assimilating something else. The result is an ever-enriched personality, a tolerant spirit, a widening range of information, a growing competence, loftier altitudes of inspiration. One can frequently test himself quite effectively to see whether his mental habits tend to promote education and culture. If someone questions the soundness of some cherished conviction of yours, watch for your reaction. Anger and a disposition to question motives are danger signals. A disposition to study the new facts or ideas candidly and honestly may be accepted as an indication that you are acquiring an education.

Japan Seeks Early Victory Over China

Maps Intensive Drive to Capture Hankow and Cut Off Supplies from Foe

BUT DIFFICULTIES INCREASE

Problem of Conquering China Seen Greater as Japanese Move Toward the Interior

The war between Japan and China is nearing the end of its first year. It was on July 7, 1937, that Japanese and Chinese soldiers began fighting at the Marco Polo bridge not far from the northern city of Peiping. Since then the area of warfare has spread over a large section of China. Peiping and the greater part of North China have fallen into the hands of Japanese. The huge city of Shanghai has been battered and captured, as has the capital at Nanking. As the year ends, Japan's war machine is preparing to push its way on to Hankow, 585 miles up the Yangtze from Shanghai and now serving as provisional capital of China. At the same time Canton, most vital commercial center of the south, is being reduced to ruins by successive raids from the air.

In launching these drives the Japanese are making strenuous efforts to bring the war to an early conclusion. They hope to be within sight of their goal on the first anniversary of the campaign against China. They hope that the fall of Hankow will demoralize the Chinese armies, and that the crippling of Canton, China's last doorway to the Pacific, will shut off supplies from foreign nations.

Japan's Problem

These are the hopes, but the Japanese themselves do not express too great confidence in them. With a few exceptions, so far, the Chinese have lost the major battles in the war; they have lost important cities and railway lines of great military value. But far from being demoralized, they have kept their forces intact, making orderly retreats and preserving their supplies. At times they have struck back with an effectiveness which has amazed and dismayed the Japanese. The fall of Hankow, in the opinion of observers, will not assure the defeat of China any more than did the fall of Shanghai or Nanking. The Chinese armies will withdraw farther into the interior, and the Japanese will be obliged to follow them. It has been well said that while Japan may win all the battles, China may win the war.

This may prove to be true, because the deeper Japan gets into China the more difficult her problem will become. More men will be needed to hold on to the occupied areas, and more supplies will be needed to sustain them. Up to now the Japanese have borne the strain of the war without great difficulty, because the army's original plan of not sending a large force against the Chinese has been carried out. At the outset of the fighting, nearly a year ago, it was felt that a strong punitive expedition—not a major war—would be sufficient to take care of Chinese resistance. Japan's real strength was held in reserve, to guard the empire and to be prepared for the "inevitable conflict" with Russia.

It appears now that the plan has miscarried. The Chinese have given ground



but have kept fighting. The Japanese armies in China have never been strong enough to overwhelm completely and wipe out the soldiers of Chiang Kai-shek. On the contrary, the Japanese have advanced slowly after quick initial successes. They were a long time in capturing Suchow, and in gaining control of the eastern end of the Lung-Hai Railroad. They suffered a major reversal at Taierchwang.

A Major War

The defeat at Taierchwang opened the eyes of the Japanese army leaders, provoking a crisis behind the scenes at Tokyo. Japan realized for the first time that the conquest of China was turning out to be a major operation, and that she would have to draw on all her resources to win. It was this crisis that led to a reorganization of the cabinet, placing additional army men in pivotal posts, and which led to partial application of legislation designed to place the nation on a wartime basis—legislation which, it had been promised, would not be used in the Chinese incident. The Japanese premier, moreover, deemed it advisable to warn the nation that extreme personal financial sacrifices would be necessary.

Shortly after the decision was taken to prosecute the war with full vigor, the Japanese army began to move forward again in China. Additional forces made possible the capture of Suchow, and the drive along the Lung-Hai railroad was continued to Chengchow. As this is written, the Japanese are hammering away at Chengchow. Its capture seems assured, and possession will be an important advantage to the Japanese. It will give them control of the junction of two railway lines, one leading from Peiping to Hankow, and the other from the coast to Sian. The map on this page shows the significance of such a victory. It will open the way to Hankow, and also to Sian. Hankow, aside from being the present seat of government, is the terminus at which supplies from Canton reach the Chinese. Sian is the terminus of the caravan route connecting China and Russia.

The reasons for Japan's latest drive are thus apparent. She hopes to deal a vital blow to the Chinese by taking Hankow, destroying Canton, and perhaps by cutting the overland route to Russia. If this campaign is successful, the Chinese forces will be badly hit.

Will China Surrender?

But will they be defeated? Will China sue for peace? It is not thought so. It is reported that the Chinese have sufficient supplies and war materials to permit them to carry on the fight for a number of months. They will, moreover, have some avenues to the outside world which will remain open. The route to Russia can be tapped beyond Sian, if the Japanese should capture that city. In the south there is a railway which connects with the coast through French Indo-China.



NEW YORK TIMES MAP AND H. S. RODGER PHOTO
(Left) Japan strains her resources to cut off war supplies from China. The shaded section, marking extreme advances of Japanese, contains many areas in which Chinese guerrilla bands dominate. (Above) John Chinaman smiles in spite of his troubles.

and work is being rushed to complete a motor road reaching into Burma, giving China access to the Indian Ocean. Admittedly it will be more difficult to secure supplies over these routes than it has been through Canton and Hong Kong. But enough material may pass through to keep the Chinese in fighting shape.

The Chinese are confident that the Japanese will be a long time in capturing Hankow, if they ever get that far. They believe that their defenses will prove strong enough to keep the Japanese navy from pushing up the Yangtze to Hankow. And Mother Nature—perhaps with some Chinese assistance—is coming to China's aid in the north. The great Yellow River is flooding again as it has to "China's Sorrow" so often in the past. Dykes have broken, or have been broken, and the Japanese army around Chengchow is threatened. The floods may prove disastrous to the Japanese, or may at least retard their advance down the Peiping-Hankow Railroad.

Few doubt, however, that the Japanese can be kept from attaining Hankow, sooner or later, and when that happens it will be a critical moment for the Chinese. There have already been signs of dissatisfaction among the generals who are under Chiang Kai-shek. Another major defeat may bring back China's old problem of internal discord, gravely affecting her ability to offer further resistance to Japan. There is always the possibility that the demoralization of Chinese forces, which the Japanese expected long ago, may take place. The danger will be especially great if supplies become scarce.

Factors Which Favor China

But while this possibility must be taken into account, it is not regarded as the most likely development. There are factors in the situation which make it appear that

China will continue to fight back against Japan for a long while. These may be summarized briefly:

1. The Chinese know that time is on their side. The longer the war lasts, the more expensive will the venture become for Japan. The strain of war at home will be harder to bear, and the Japanese people, many of whom do not really support the war, may clamor for an end. If China can hold out long enough, the war may even bankrupt Japan. Japan is aware of the dangers and is racing against time.

2. The Chinese are not unmindful of costs themselves, but they are relatively in a good position. They are fighting a defensive war on their own territory, which is not so expensive—in an immediate military sense—as an offensive expedition in a foreign country. Their soldiers are better able to live off the sympathetic countryside. They can continue to wage guerrilla warfare for a long time, at less expense than the Japanese carry forward their fight.

Feeling Toward Japan

3. Japan's bombings of cities, and her frequent ruthless attacks on men, women, and children, have intensified the feeling of hatred which the Chinese bear toward the Japanese. Japan's tactics are leaving marks which the Chinese will long remember, and which will make them determined to fight where otherwise they might be inclined to yield.

4. The Chinese continue to hope for foreign intervention. The attack on Canton comes perilously close to the British possession of Hong Kong. Supplies for China actually are deposited at Hong Kong and from there they are taken to Canton. If Canton is ruined, the commercial life of Hong Kong will be ruined. The British are in no mood to resist aggressors these days, but still the Chinese keep hoping that

something will happen to bring foreign nations into the war against Japan.

There is always danger of incidents which will involve other nations in the struggle. Thus the Japanese navy, determined to sweep up the Yangtze, has warned all foreign vessels to get out of the danger zone. The United States has replied stiffly that she will not do so, and that American naval vessels will continue to travel in Chinese waters where American citizens may be in danger.

5. If the war is long drawn out, and if Japan's position is weakened by it, it is possible that Russia will seize the opportunity to deal a blow to Japan. The Russians know well that the Japanese plan someday to launch a campaign against them, and they may decide to forestall such action by striking at a favorable moment. At present, this is considered a remote possibility, but it may develop rapidly, depending upon Russia's internal situation, the outlook in Europe, and the degree to which Japan is feared.

Conquered but Not Conquered

These factors, particularly the first three, make Japan's task appear very difficult. And they do not take into account the problem of pacifying and bringing economic stability to the areas brought under the Japanese banner by her armies. Maps of the war, in this respect, are somewhat misleading. They show that Japan has made great geographical advances and has large areas under her control. But they do not show that in many cases the control is only nominal, and that the Chinese are still giving a great deal of trouble within the captured areas. Nathaniel Peffer makes this clear in an article in the New York Times:

Almost a year of warfare has shown . . . that when Japan conquers an area, it has advanced on the map but has not conquered otherwise. On one point all who know the Far East are unanimously agreed. After the Japanese army has taken over an area, it does not hold the area. It is in military occupation of those places at which it has garrisons, and that is all. And at many of those places it has an unstable position. Months after the Japanese had overrun Shansi Province, guerrilla bands swept a large part of the province clear of Japanese garrisons, and the Japanese had to begin conquest all over again. At best the Japanese have to devote all their energies to securing themselves at central points. For purposes of administration and profitable economic development they might as well not be there.

All this will be true in still higher degree after the Japanese have all of North China and the Yangtze Valley west to Hankow. China's task will be markedly harder, but Japan's not easier—if anything, harder than China's. . . .

Great obstacles thus lie in Japan's path before she can claim success in China. Whether she can surmount them remains to be seen. Her chief hope lies in being able to deal a quick, crushing defeat to the armies of Chiang Kai-shek. By wiping out the organized resistance to her forces, she may manage afterward to deal with the unorganized resistance. But if she is unable to annihilate Chiang Kai-shek's forces, she may find herself getting deeper and deeper into China, and farther than ever from victory.

PRONUNCIATIONS: Lung-Hai (loong' high'), Chiang Kai-shek (jee'ong ky'shek'), Suchow (soo'jo'-o as in go), Taierchwang (ty-air-shwahng'), Hankow (han'ko'-o as in go), Sian (see'ahn'), Peiping (bay'ping').

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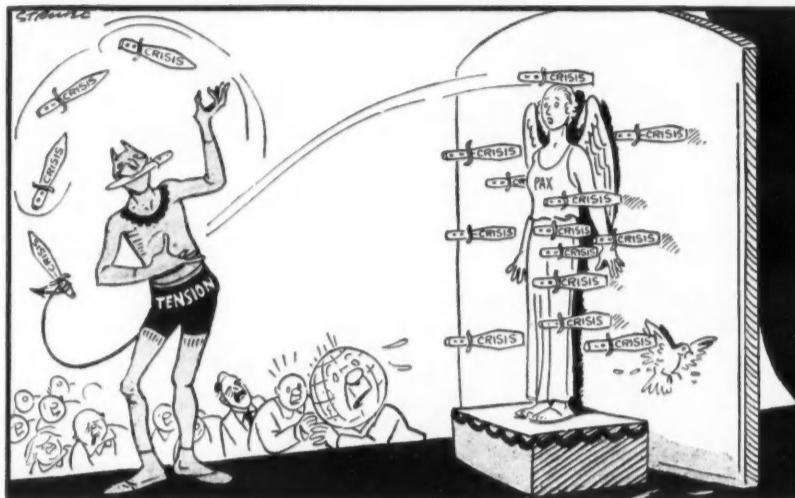
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THE WATERFRONT AT CANTON, CHINA
China's great commercial city of the south has been heavily bombed by Japanese planes in recent weeks.

AROUND THE WORLD



"NICE WORK—IF HE CAN MISS IT"

STRUKE. COURTESY WASHINGTON POST

Europe: Statesmen on the continent are looking forward to the next six weeks with considerable apprehension, and will breathe more easily if the month of July is safely passed. For that month has been most dangerous for the world in recent years. It was in July 1936 that the Spanish civil war began, and it was in July 1937 that the war between Japan and China got its start.

So far as 1938 is concerned, however, there is a strong belief that the most critical moments of the year have passed. Germany's absorption of Austria in March, and Germany's threatening attitude toward Czechoslovakia in May, were severe shocks to Europe, and the fact that war did not develop encourages the feeling that peace is assured for the remainder of the year. A strong deterrent to war has made its appearance in the form of drought, which has sharply reduced wheat crops on the continent. Italy, Great Britain, Central Europe, and the Balkans have been severely affected; France and Germany less so. This gives point to an expression attributed to a German military expert: "You may be able to end a war on bread ration cards, but you cannot start a war on them."

Nevertheless, an alarming atmosphere of tension continues to prevail. Another crisis over Czechoslovakia may result from the negotiations which are now being carried on between the government and the German minority. Konrad Henlein, leader of the Sudeten Germans, has taken a more militant stand since his party won victories in recent local elections. It is said that he will insist on complete autonomy for the Germans of Czechoslovakia. The government has agreed to accept the demands as a basis for discussion, but has indicated that it will refuse to grant more than limited self-government to the Sudeten Germans. The newspapers in Berlin are again talking of the possibility of a "forcible solution" to the problem.

In Spain new dangers are seen to European peace. Insurgents, trying once more to cripple the supply lines of the loyalists, have bombed British ships and French territory. It is reported that Mussolini, determined to bring about victory for Franco, is ready to sacrifice his recent understanding with Britain (which was to have taken effect upon the withdrawal of Italian "volunteers" from Spain) and send additional men and supplies to the insurgents.

* * *

Germany: Triumphant though the march of her militarists through Central Europe and Spain may be, Nazi Germany has driven from her borders in increasing

defense. They renewed their determination to ally themselves neither with Germany nor the Soviet Union, but to remain neutral in any future struggle.

* * *

Syria: A dispute over the sanjak (or state) of Alexandretta which for weeks has threatened violence in the eastern Mediterranean seems to be near settlement as France and Turkey, the two interested parties, are reportedly close to agreement. Alexandretta is a small section of north-western Syria which was mandated to France by the League of Nations at the close of the World War. The trouble began when France announced that she was going to abandon the mandate and withdraw from Syria.

Turkey was at once interested for Alexandretta is on the Turkish border; it is one of the best harbors in the world and yet in a region where good harbors are rare; and it contains a large Turkish population. Although the Turkish government has claimed that there is a Turkish majority in Alexandretta, the last census shows the Turks to number only 46 per cent, while the real majority consists of Syrian Arabs who will, if present trends continue, control the government after the coming elections. The French became alarmed at reports that Turkish troops were massing along the border, and they feared that Dictator Mustapha Kemal was planning a military occupation of Alexandretta in case the Syrian Arabs carry the elections.

That alarm was somewhat quieted this week as French and Turkish officials tried to reach a compromise that would satisfy Turkey and yet protect the Arabs. The French, having warned Turkey of serious consequences which might follow a military coup, are believed to be willing to grant substantial concessions. Some reports indicate that the two governments will use the present discussions as the basis for a broader understanding that might include mutual guarantees concerning Alexandretta, and the freedom of Franco-Russian trade through the Dardanelles in event of war, and a military alliance.

* * *

Canada: Several years ago voters of the Canadian province of Alberta elected as premier a man named Alberhart, who said he could bring about eternal prosperity and individual security through a system of "social credit" wherein the government would pay dividends regularly to each citizen and collect the money again by taxing the increased turnover in business which the payments would stimulate. The

plan was very simple. Everyone would get the money, everyone would spend it, then the government would get it back again through taxes. This would keep going on and on forever.

But it never worked out. Alberta was practically bankrupt before Premier Alberhart could even start on his plan, and to make matters worse, the Supreme Court declared that social credit could not be tried in the province. Some people declared that the plan had never been given a fair chance, but that if it had it would work. Others asserted that like perpetual motion it was based on a false theory and of its own weight would soon bog down in the mire of bankruptcy.

Last week the social credit plan was put to test again as voters in the neighboring province of Saskatchewan went to the polls in an election in which Alberta's plan was a major issue. Social credit candi-



A FASCIST LEADER STRIKES A POSE
Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of the British Fascists, expounds his views frequently and loudly, but the British do not take him seriously.

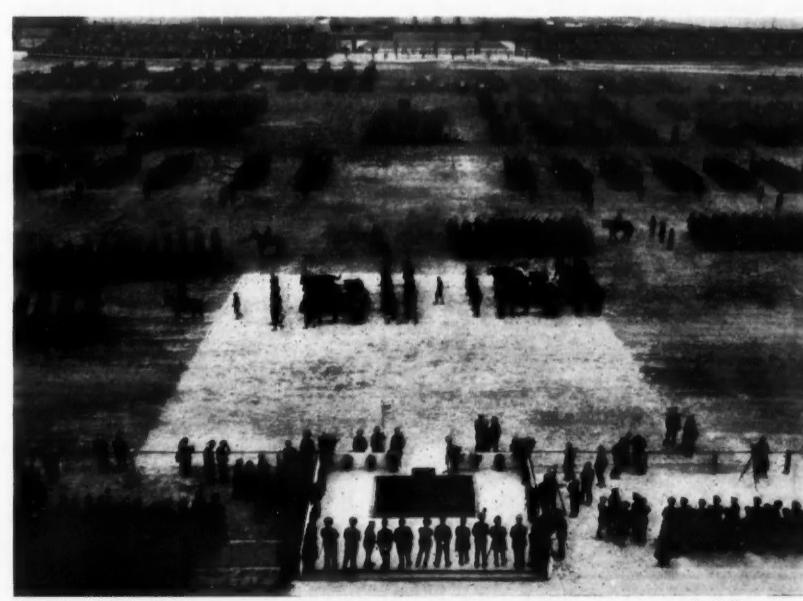
dates met overwhelming defeat. Political observers believe that the repercussions of that defeat would be felt all over Canada, and particularly in Quebec where political leaders have reputedly been toying with the idea of social credit for some time.

* * *

Tibet: What is it that drives men to undergo great hardship and risk their lives for no gain? Probably not even the men who do it can answer that question, but nearly every year sees a group of them go forth desperately determined to scale some forbidding mountain even though they may face death and great suffering in the attempt. Something magnetic in the dangerous beauty of the great heights draws them on year after year.

One of the most spectacular series has been the attempts to scale Mount Everest in the Himalaya Mountains of Tibet, none of which have succeeded and some of which tragically perished among its cliffs and snows. Rising somber and aloof from the wild and tumbled mountains surrounding it, Everest soars 29,141 feet into the air, higher than any other mountain in the world. No expedition has ever gone beyond the last thousand feet. Battered by high winds and driving snows, impeded by air so thin that the slightest motion brings exhaustion, those who have struggled the highest have perished or crawled half-frozen and more dead than alive back to shelter.

One more expedition has just failed. This, the seventh of the series, was headed by an Englishman, H. W. Tilman, and gave up after fighting rain, snow, cold, high winds, and Everest's treacherous avalanches.



CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S ARMY IS ONE OF THE BEST TRAINED IN EUROPE U. S. U.



HARRIS AND EWING

READY TO GO
As Congress prepared to adjourn, members flocked to the railroad ticket office at the Capitol to get their transportation home. Left to right: Representatives William M. Conner (Miss.), Virginia Jenckes (Ind.), Matthew J. Merritt (N. J.), and Ticket Agent P. H. McClure.

Wages and Hours

After months of bitter wrangling, the last obstacle to the passage of a federal wage-and-hour bill was removed when a conference committee of senators and representatives agreed on a compromise form. The conference bill was generally hailed as a better bill than either the House or Senate version.

It provides that three months after the bill becomes law, the minimum wage for workers in industries affecting interstate commerce shall be 25 cents an hour, and the maximum workweek shall be 44 hours. A year later, the standards shall be changed to 30 cents and 42 hours. At the beginning of the third year, the workweek shall drop to 40 hours. The wage limit, however, is made flexible at that point. It is scheduled to reach 40 cents an hour within seven years. Special committees in each industry, made up of businessmen, laborers, and public representatives, are to determine just how rapidly wages in each industry shall be raised. They may exempt certain industries which seem unable to stand a wage of more than 30 cents an hour.

The bill sets up a wage-and-hour division in the Department of Labor, with an administrator to be appointed by the President. This agency will work with the committees in determining proper minimum wage standards after the 30-cent limit. It will also investigate complaints against employers who are not conforming to the wage-and-hour standards. If it finds that an employer is violating the minimum-wage provision of the bill, it may penalize him by requiring him to pay back wages equal to the minimum, as well as damages, to each worker. Other violations of the bill are punishable by fines and imprisonment. Employers may appeal to the courts whenever they believe the agency's orders are unjust.

Child Labor Ban

Twenty-two years ago Congress passed a law forbidding children under 14 years of age to work in mines and factories. Two years later, the Supreme Court nullified the law on the grounds that the states and not the federal government have the power to regulate child labor. Since that time, there has been a long-drawn-out battle to secure some kind of federal regulation of child labor. The issue has been debated time and again in Congress, argued pro and con in the newspapers and magazines. In 1924 a movement was started to amend the constitution to give Congress the necessary power. State after state has fought the battle over ratification, but to date only 28 states have approved the amendment.

Yet last week Congress imposed federal regulation on child labor without creating more than a ripple of comment. The new wage-and-hour bill contains a section which states that children under 14 years of age shall not be employed in industries engaged in interstate commerce. In reality, the age limit is placed at 16, since children between 14 and 16 are to work only during out-of-school hours and after obtaining special permission. This exception makes it possible for newsboys to keep their jobs. Another clause in the child-labor section prohibits persons under 18 from working at

"hazardous occupations." The principal general exception to the child-labor ban is that which exempts agriculture, thus pacifying farmers who have always feared such legislation on the grounds that it would make it impossible for their sons to work at home.

If the Supreme Court ruled out a similar law in 1918, why is it likely to let this one stand? Most observers believe that the Court has had a change of heart during the last 20 years. They point to other laws, such as the Wagner Labor Relations Act, which have been upheld by the Court, as evidence that the majority of the justices no longer oppose federal intervention in such fields.

Policy Toward Japan

The bombing of the populous city of Canton by the Japanese, resulting in the death of more than 8,000 civilians, has led to the renewal of demands that the sale of American war materials to Japan be checked. Representative Tinkham, of Massachusetts, has pointed out that the United States is supplying Japan with between one and two million dollars worth of airplanes every month. And Senator Pope of Idaho has made the assertion that this country is furnishing Japan with 54.4 per cent of her war materials while Germany, Japan's ally, is contributing 3.8 per cent. "The American people ought to know," he said, "that while they are longing for the discontinuance of the aggressive war upon China by Japan, we are making it possible for Japan to carry on the war by the shipment of war materials to Japan."

Secretary of State Hull, in sympathy with this point of view, has approached American plane manufacturers asking them to refrain voluntarily from selling planes to Japan. The President could give this request the force of law simply by applying the Neutrality Act, but inasmuch as this would mean the shutting off of war materials to China as well as to Japan, the administration has avoided taking the step.

Mr. Hull is being severely criticized for his action in bringing pressure to bear on plane manufacturers. It is said that his attitude is

unneutral and that he seeks to apply an unofficial embargo against Japan. This, it is argued, violates the spirit of the Neutrality Act, which after all is the law and the will of Congress. Critics of the administration's foreign policy claim that actions of this kind bring us closer to the danger of war with Japan. They are alarmed over the growing anti-Japanese policy of the administration.

On the other hand the secretary of state's effort to restrict the sale of war materials to an aggressor nation is applauded as a humanitarian step designed to save the lives of defenseless civilians in China.

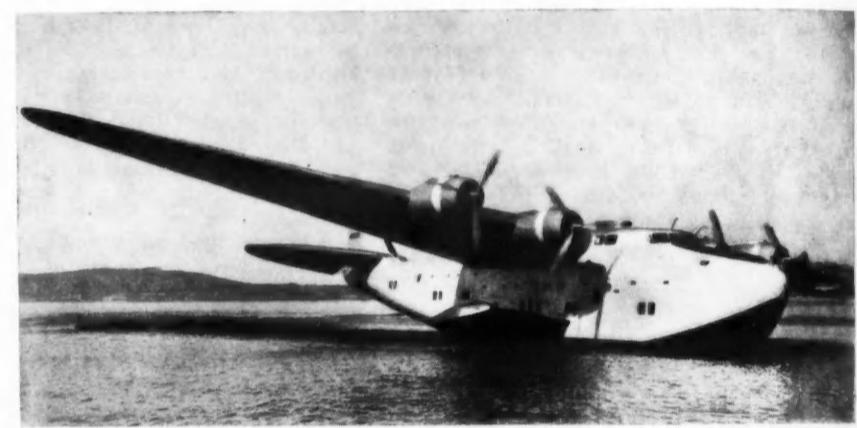
Summer Politics

With the members of Congress hurrying home, most of them to mend political fences in preparation for forthcoming primaries and elections, the atmosphere in the nation's capital is considerably less strained these days. Probably nowhere is the peace and quiet appreciated more than at the White House. The adjournment of Congress does not mean that the President gets a vacation. His schedule

will harvest more wheat than the United States can consume. They expect to sell more to foreign countries this year than they have for some time, since droughts in Europe have caused extensive crop failures there. But even so, the government will probably have to take action to prevent a disastrous drop in price. Under the new AAA passed last winter, several steps can be taken. The government can buy up some of the surplus to distribute to families on relief. It can make loans to farmers on part of their crops, so that some of the surplus can be stored. And as a final step, it can reduce the number of acres planted in wheat next year, so that another huge surplus will not be piled up.

No Salmon

For years the Columbia River has been the scene of an annual spring salmon "run." Thousands of the silvery Royal Chinooks fight their way up the river during May and June, to lay their eggs in the quiet upper waters. Hundreds of fishermen depend on this annual run for their living.



A GIANT PREPARES TO TRY ITS WINGS
The mammoth 83,000-pound Boeing Superclipper photographed during a taxi test in the waters of Puget Sound. The Superclipper is the first of a fleet of six being constructed for Pan American Airways, to be used in Atlantic and Pacific service.

for the next few weeks is a heavy one. There are routine duties, of course, which could occupy his full time. In addition, he is slated to make several speeches within the next few weeks in the East.

According to present plans, the President will leave Washington July 7 on a jaunt which will take him across the continent by train. He will board a navy cruiser in San Francisco for a few days' fishing in Central American waters and the return trip through the Panama Canal to the east coast. Political commentators are attaching a great deal of significance to the President's plans. He will speak in Ohio and Kentucky on his way to California, and he will make appearances and impromptu remarks in Tennessee, Oklahoma, Colorado, Utah, and Nevada. In each of these states there is an election in which the New Deal is vitally interested. Just how much the President will do toward indicating his preference for candidates remains to be seen.

The Golden Grain

The wheat farmers of the great central states are in their fields this month with tractors and combines, harvesting the largest wheat crop in the history of the nation. Recently the Department of Agriculture estimated that the 1938 harvest would total at least 1,020,000,000 bushels; the former record is 1,008,000,000, set in 1915.

The price of wheat rose sharply when the estimate was released, in spite of the huge crop forecast, because nearly everyone expected it to be larger. Exceptionally favorable weather this spring led private wheat experts to predict a crop close to 1,050,000,000 bushels. Lately, however, considerable damage from rust has been reported in Oklahoma and Kansas fields. In other places, it is claimed that the wheat is not "heading out" because of an early freeze.

There is no question but that the farmers



RETURNING CONGRESSMEN
HERBLOCK IN PONCA CITY (OKLA.) NEWS

This spring, say the fishermen, there has been no salmon run. For the first time within their memory, the fish did not come up the Columbia. Only empty nets and seines have rewarded their hours on the river. Some of the men blame the Bonneville Dam for stopping the run. Government officials, however, say that the fish never reached the dam. A few, the advance guard, arrived at the dam in April, and passed it by using the specially built "fish ladders." But the main army of the salmon never appeared, it is claimed.

Government Beavers

The United States government is planning to put 600 beavers to work building dams in Idaho this summer. Last year the Department of Interior settled 200 beavers in the state. As a result of the activities of only one colony, there are 17 small check dams on a stream which once ran barely enough water for a horse or cow to drink. Now there are ponds deep enough for duck breeding grounds, and the stream is to be stocked with trout soon.

It costs the government \$8 to catch the beavers and transport them to their new home. Government officials figure that each animal will do \$300 worth of work, so the profit is estimated at \$292. They figure, too, that the number of beavers should more than double every year. Consequently the dam-building will move forward much more rapidly in a few years.

Printing Progress

An important cog in the intricate process of printing a newspaper is the linotype operator. Receiving the written material from the editor, the operator "sets" it in metal slugs—each slug a complete line of type. Before the invention of the linotype, printers had to set type by hand, a letter at a time. That was a laborious process; a good linotype man can now do 10 or 12 times as much work as an

The Week in the

What the American People

The United States

Doing, Saying, and Thinking

old-time typesetter. Every print shop has one or more linotype operators.

A new invention is now being tried out which may eliminate much of the work of the linotype men. Recently a man sat at a specially built typewriter in New York. As he tapped the keys, impulses were started on their way which eventually operated a linotype in Charlotte, North Carolina. If the invention proves practical, it may soon be possible for one typist at a central point, such as New York, to operate machines which would set type in Baltimore, Washington, Boston, Philadelphia, and scores of smaller places. At present, through such organizations as the Associated Press and the United Press, many of these papers use the same articles, word for word. Yet each of them must employ linotype operators. The semigraph, as the invention is called, would make it necessary for the papers to make use of linotype operators only for their original stories.

Buried Treasure

Silver and jewels, sunk off the coast of Norfolk, Virginia, 27 years ago, have lured an Italian salvage steamer, the *Falco*, to America. No one knows just how much wealth is buried in the hull of the *Mérida*, now 250 feet beneath the surface. The ship collided with the *Admiral Farragut* on May 11, 1911, and went down almost immediately. The 200 passengers were rescued, but there was no time for them to get their jewels from the purser, or for the crew to unload a shipment of silver. It is thought that the crown jewels of the former Emperor Maximilian of Mexico may be among the lot.

Four previous attempts have been made to reach the treasure, but all were unsuccessful. The *Falco*, however, has a good record in salvaging sunken riches.

Teaching by Pictures

Teachers have long realized that motion pictures afford a valuable instrument for education, yet only 10 per cent of the American public schools use them at present. There are several reasons for the slow advance in teaching through pictures. Equipment and films are very expensive; there is only a small supply of good educational films, and few teachers are trained to use motion pictures to the best advantage.

The prospect is good for much progress in motion picture teaching in the next few years, however. The motion picture industry is work-



WINGS OVER THE RAILROADS
FITZPATRICK IN ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

ing with educators to make old "shorts" available to schools. Bits are being taken from feature pictures, too, and are being combined in reels illustrating social problems, such as labor, crime, and education. Once schools are able to get good films, it's likely that more school boards will provide the money to buy projectors and to rent films. Technical progress may cut down the price of equipment. Teachers' colleges are paying more attention to training their students to use motion pictures, so the instructors of the future should be better equipped in that respect than present teachers.

Relief Measure

Ten million dollars' worth of ready-made clothing will be bought by the WPA and distributed among persons on relief as soon as possible. Harry Hopkins, administrator of the WPA, says that there are two objectives for this plan. In the first place, it will furnish clothing to a large group of persons now unable to buy decent garments. In the second place, it will stimulate business in the textile industry. Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, a CIO union, suggested the plan to the WPA officials. He says that the WPA purchases will take a great deal of surplus stock off the hands of clothing manufacturers, and thus permit them to keep their factories going. He estimates that about 160,000 workers will be benefited by the plan.



NAT'L. PARK SERVICE

SUNSET OVER ALBEMARLE SOUND
Off the coast of North Carolina. This is one of the areas included in the proposed Cape Hatteras National Seashore, which will be the first recreational area of its kind on the Atlantic coast.



CHINESE DRAMATIZE THEIR PLEAS FOR RELIEF FUNDS
Chicago Chinese staged an impressive spectacle recently as part of a campaign to raise funds to help war sufferers in China. Moving planes dropping bombs upon a city were a high point of the fireworks display.

NEW Books

AUSTRALIA is so far from the United States that she does not come to our attention as much as our nearer neighbors. Yet as David M. Dow points out in "Australia Advances" (New York: Funk and Wagnalls, \$2), this isolated continent, together with the neighboring island state of Tasmania, has an area approximately equal to that of the United States and there are interesting points of similarity between the two countries.

What these people have done in solving social and economic problems holds the most interest for the rest of the world. Years ago their government ironed out difficulties which Congress and the President are now facing. What is more, they are by far a younger nation than we. But these successes have largely been overlooked; for the most part we have thought of Australia as the home of the kangaroo and as a frontier country resembling our own undeveloped and wild West of yesterday.

With 13 years' experience in the Australian government, Mr. Dow has had a great deal of opportunity to know the conditions in his homeland, and to contrast them with those in the United States, where he has traveled frequently. His effort here to give the American reader a better and clearer picture of Australia is a contribution toward clearing up many misconceptions which we have had about his nation.

* * *

WHAT are the liberties which a democracy is intended to preserve for its citizens? Do we still have these liberties in the United States? According to George Seldes' survey in "You Can't Do That" (New York: Modern Age Books, 50 cents), these questions demand immediate attention. With numerous examples, he supports his belief that there is a constantly growing disregard for civil liberties. For instance, he calls attention to vigilante methods which have been used against labor unions in their attempts to organize and to employ collective bargaining. He also names individuals whom he accuses of being patriotic only when it is commercially profitable for them to be so, and who act very differently when their own interests are at stake.

There is no equivocation in this indictment against those whom he thinks are undermining our liberties. Not stopping at generalizations, he names and accuses well-known organizations, individuals, and companies of furthering these efforts. This provocative attack should stimulate the reader to make further investigation of the charges hurled by Mr. Seldes. His book raises some vital issues in a democracy whose citizens are beginning to take a keener interest in looking into organizations and institutions for their true purpose, whether good or bad.

* * *

LONDON," says Robert Sinclair, "is the hub of the universe for 45 million people." He goes on to say in "The Big City" (New York: Reynal and Hitchcock, \$3) that

many of these persons will deny that fact, yet it is true that socially, politically, and economically the Englishman is joined by his Scottish and Irish brothers in looking toward London for leadership. So much do they gravitate toward the metropolis that "more people regularly enter London's maw nowadays than did Belgian refugees when war drove half a nation across the Channel. The metropolitan population is increasing by 80,000 persons every year."

This has built London into such a city, he writes that "if you fly low over St. Paul's on a clear day you can see the roofs that house ten million people." This great concentration of people has been a boon to some, a menace to others. For instance, "one-third of the people in the County of London are destined



FROM A DRAWING BY SHEIKH AHMED FOR "THE WHITE CAMEL"

to die in the poorhouse." But on the other hand, the people also are living where payrolls are centered, where there are scores of amusements, and a constant kaleidoscope of human activities to vary the humdrum of daily existence.

The pictures which Sinclair paints of this area are striking examples of what the Industrial Revolution created when it caused the growth of urban populations. Complications, with both good and evil effects, have come in the wake of this movement, bringing problems which were unheard and undreamed of not many years ago. His vigorous exposition explains tangles which municipal experts must solve, but in a fashion that is both instructive and entertaining to the lay reader whose fortunes may be tied up with the way governments meet these difficulties.

* * *

ARABIA'S burning desert, her fertile oases, and her constant mysticism make a good combination in a story to entertain the imagination of a western mind. That proves to be the successful recipe in Eden Phillpotts' "The White Camel" (New York: Dutton, \$2), which should find an appreciative audience among younger readers. Amid symbols of life and death, young Ali, the main character, grows up with a white camel which was born at the hour of his own birth. This story of their life reveals a great deal about the Arabian people, their customs, homes, and means of making a living. As an added native touch, the excellent black and white illustrations for the story are the work of Sheikh Ahmed, who has lived among these people for a number of years—J. H. A.

Personalities in the News

John N. Garner

When John Nance Garner was elected vice-president of the United States in 1933, most political observers believed that he had reached the climax of his career. They agreed that he was an asset to the Democratic ticket. Since he is from Texas, he gave the West a personal interest in the race. His 32 years in the House of Representatives, part of the time as floor leader of the Democrats and as speaker of the House, gave him wide experience in legislative matters. He is a shrewd, hard-headed politician. But no one expected him to exercise much influence in the administration.

During the past year, however, Mr. Garner has grown in prestige and popularity. Last summer he cut short a fishing trip in Texas to return to the capital, where a bitter fight in the Senate over the President's plan to reform the Supreme Court was threatening to cause an irreparable split in the Democratic ranks.

The white-haired, ruddy Texan engineered the compromise between the rebellious senators and the President.

Since then, he has come to be recognized as the leader of the element in Congress which, although loyal to the President for the most part, has opposed the New Deal on several occasions. That element believes the President should not press new reforms on the country at present. It believes that the nation needs a "breathing spell"—a period to digest the New Deal policies already in operation.

That is the attitude which most businessmen favor. And because Vice-President Garner is backing it, they are singing his praises. In fact, many conservatives in the Democratic party are considering Mr. Garner as a possible candidate for President in 1940.

* * *

Norman Thomas

The foremost spokesman for the doctrine of the Socialist party in the United States is Norman Thomas. For more than 20 years, Mr. Thomas has advocated socialism, in speeches, books, pamphlets, and magazine articles. He is generally recognized as one of the most powerful public speakers in America; his commanding appearance, booming voice, and long experience on the platform give him an appeal which audiences, even those who disagree with his views, find hard to resist.

Mr. Thomas is not the type of man ordinarily associated with socialism by the public. He is a graduate of Princeton University, and an ordained minister. For a number of years after graduation, he preached in a New York church. His career as a Socialist began shortly before the World War; he took a prominent part in the fight carried on by the party against this country's entrance into the war. He is a man of considerable wealth; he owns a home in New York and a country place at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island. He has five children.

During the more than 20 years that he has been an avowed Socialist, Mr. Thomas has been his party's candidate for President three times—in 1928, 1932, and 1936—as well as its representative in New York races for mayor, governor, and congressman. He has said he does not wish to run for President again in 1940, but it is likely that the Socialists will draft him anyway.

Lately he has been in the news because of

his attempts to speak in Jersey City, from which he was ejected by Mayor Hague's police, and in Newark, where he was rotten-egged. He is now carrying on an aggressive campaign against the violation of civil rights in New Jersey. Aside from that, his principal interest at present is keeping the United States out of war.

* * *

Alben W. Barkley

One of the most hectic primary battles of the summer is being waged in Kentucky, where Senator Alben Barkley is campaigning for the Democratic nomination. He is

opposed by Governor "Happy" Chandler, and the victor is almost certain to win the ensuing election, since Kentucky is solidly Democratic.

President Roosevelt is expected to aid Senator Barkley's cause when he speaks in Kentucky in the near future. It is highly important to the President's program that Senator Barkley be returned to the Senate. He has been an unwavering supporter of the New Deal. More than that, he is the floor leader of the Democrats in the Senate. It is his job to keep the Democratic senators lined up behind the President's measures. And he was elected to that office last summer, when it was left open by the death of Senator Robinson, because the President preferred him to Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi. His defeat in Kentucky would be a severe blow to the President's prestige and power.

Senator Barkley is a veteran of many political campaigns. He has served 14 years in the House of Representatives and 10 in the Senate. Before that, he held minor offices in Kentucky. He is a native of that state; he worked his way through high school and college there, then graduated from law school at the University of Virginia. He returned to Paducah, Kentucky, the town made famous by Irvin S. Cobb, to set up law practice.

* * *

"Tommy the Cork"

In 1931 a young lawyer named Thomas G. Corcoran came to Washington to work with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. He came for three months only, but he

did such a good job that he was asked to stay. Now, although still nominally with the RFC, he is one of the President's most trusted and influential advisers.

"Tommy the Cork," as the President has nicknamed him, had little or nothing to do with the first Roosevelt administration.

Shortly after the election of 1936, the President's attention was called to the young attorney and his partner, Benjamin V. Cohen. They were put on several important tasks; now they are said to confer with the President on nearly every important move.

Mr. Corcoran, a native of Rhode Island, is only 37 years old. He is a stocky, well-built man, with blue eyes and brown hair, now greying. He graduated from Harvard Law School, then became secretary to the late Justice Holmes before joining a prominent law firm in New York. He is regarded as an extremely capable lawyer, with a brilliant mind and an amazing capacity for work. He is being attacked at present by New Deal critics, who blame him for much of the activity of the Roosevelt administration which they regard as radical and dangerous.

Lately he has been in the news because of

H. & E.
TOM CORCORAN

H. & E.
NORMAN THOMAS



HORACE GREELEY
Prominent editor of an earlier day.



WALTER LIPPmann
Leading columnist of the present day.

Historical Backgrounds

By David S. Muzzey and Paul D. Miller

American Journalism and the Columnist

ONE of the great changes that have taken place in the character of American newspapers in the last half century or so deals with the influence of the editor and the editorial page. In the early days of American journalistic history, the editors of most newspapers played a much more vital role in shaping public opinion than they do today. The editor was a man of broad influence, and he was looked to by thousands for advice and counsel on matters of public concern.

In those days the average newspaper was owned or at least controlled by the man who edited it. It was an organ which he could use to express his own views, support policies he favored, and combat those to which he was opposed. The editor was a true "moulder of public opinion," and every time a public issue arose, people turned to the editorial page of their favorite paper to see which side it would take.

Famous Editors

Those were the days of such men as Horace Greeley, Oswald Garrison, Charles Dana, Samuel Bowles, Thomas Ritchie, and Henry R. Raymond. They were the last of a long list of influential editors which began with the earliest newspapers published in the United States. Newspaper readers knew who the prominent editors were and what they stood for.

With few exceptions, the influence of the personal editor has declined. There remain a few cases of newspapers which are owned and largely edited by a single individual. The most conspicuous example of this type of journal is the Emporia (Kansas) *Gazette*, which has a national reputation because its editorial pages reflect the views of William Allen White.

But today the large newspapers of the country are great corporations; they come under the classification of big business. The editors are salaried employees who are paid to give expression to the views of the owners. And while such prominent journals as the *New York Times*, *New York Herald-Tribune*, *Baltimore Sun*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *Chicago Tribune*, or the chain newspapers, all have definite editorial policies, the editorial writers themselves have, as a rule, little to do with the formulation of those policies. The day of the personal editor has passed. Even the names of most editors are not known to the reading public.

With the passing of the personal editor has come another figure who is assuming an ever more important role in American journalism. He is the columnist, the political commentator, who exerts a considerable influence upon public opinion and who, to a certain extent, takes the place of the old-time editor. Frequently the writings of these columnists are syndicated and appear in hundreds of newspapers throughout the

country. Commentators such as Walter Lippmann, Dorothy Thompson, Mark Sullivan, Boake Carter, Heywood Broun, Hugh S. Johnson, Westbrook Pegler, Frank Kent, and David Lawrence are read by millions of newspaper readers every day.

Like the old-time editor, these columnists and commentators take sides of controversial questions. There are conservative, liberal, and a few radical columnists. They do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspapers in which their writing appears. It is true that some newspapers run only those columns with which they are generally in agreement, but many select a variety in order to appeal to all types of readers.

Columnists' Influence

It is impossible to measure accurately the columnists' influence, although it is generally conceded that it is far more powerful than that of the editorial page. In number of readers, for example, the columnist far surpasses the editorial page, because his work is syndicated.

In a recent issue of *The Nation*, Margaret Marshall made the following tabulation of some of the leading columnists, together with the number of readers they are said to reach:

Newspapers	Circulation
Walter Lippmann	160
Dorothy Thompson	140
Hugh S. Johnson	67
Boake Carter	92
Mark Sullivan	54
Frank Kent	112
David Lawrence	100
Raymond Clapper	49
Westbrook Pegler	110
Heywood Broun	42
Eleanor Roosevelt	62
	8,000,000
	7,500,000
	4,179,583
	11,000,000
	4,000,000
	7,000,000
	3,000,000
	3,653,385
	5,907,389
	2,829,487
	4,034,552

It must not be assumed that all those who buy newspapers read the columnists, any more than it is to be assumed that they all read the editorial pages. It is well known that millions of newspaper readers confine their attention to sensational stories, sports, comics, comments on motion pictures, and household hints. Still, the influence of the columnist is considerable. His words are carefully read by those who take an active part in public affairs. His opinions are frequently repeated in Congress, find their way into the Congressional Record, and affect the shaping of legislation. It has been said, for example, that Dorothy Thompson's campaign against the reorganization bill was more responsible for its defeat than any other single factor.



DAVID S. MUZZEY

The St. Lawrence Seaway Project

BUT for a stretch of almost impassable water in the St. Lawrence River known as the International Rapids, the entire northern boundary of the United States from New York to Minnesota would be accessible to seagoing vessels. A plan, known as the St. Lawrence Seaway Project, which would remove that barrier through the joint efforts of the United States and Canada, has long been under discussion, and for two decades a source of controversy in Washington and Ottawa.

Every President since Woodrow Wilson has urged Congress to approve such a project. But so far, approval has not been secured. The plan has already met one defeat in the present administration. In 1934 the Senate failed by 14 votes to ratify the treaty with Canada which would have set the program in motion.

The New Treaty

But the Roosevelt administration has revived the issue and presented to the Canadian government a revision of that same treaty. It provides, as before, that the United States and Canada shall jointly construct a series of canals and locks around the dangerous rapids on one hand, and that the two nations shall construct great hydroelectric plants to harness the tremendous force of the rapids and produce over 2,000,000 horsepower in low-cost electricity on the other. The only substantial change that has been made in the treaty is in the provision committing the United States to start work immediately while allowing Canada to hold back until as late as 1949 if she wishes.

If you were to take a map of the United States and draw a rough half circle (slightly flat at the bottom) starting at the Canadian border and moving down through eastern Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado, and then east through Kansas, Missouri, and Kentucky, and finally north through Pennsylvania and New York to the Canadian border again, you would find within the semi-circle 18 states which are held by economic ties within the region that would, according to supporters of the seaway plan, greatly benefit by the opening of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence waterway clear through to the sea. All around the Lakes lies the greatest industrial region in the Western Hemisphere. Forty-five million people live within the circle. They produce 38 per cent of the nation's manufactures; nearly all its cereals; most of its livestock; and a considerable quantity of its minerals—iron and manganese, copper, gold, and coal. Of the seven states the value of whose products in the peak year 1929 exceeded \$5,000,000,000 each, five of them—Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York—lie wholly or partly within the half circle.

A Great Waterway

There is no other ship channel anywhere that carries such a great volume of freight as passes through the Great Lakes. Through the Detroit River canal in 1936, for instance, there moved 96,779,290 tons, as compared with the 32,378,883 tons passing through the Suez Canal, and 27,369,615 through the Panama Canal. This great volume of traffic, constituting 20 per cent of our water-borne commerce, moves eastward along the Lakes and towards the sea. Iron ore and other minerals, from Duluth-Superior, one of the largest ports in the country, travels eastward to the steel regions of Ohio and Pennsylvania. Shiploads of grain move eastward as far as they can to the eastern lake ports, and thence by rail to the populous food-consuming centers or to Atlantic ports for transshipment abroad.

Although in the minds of many people it consists of a great many separate segments with a variety of names—lakes, rivers and falls—this waterway is all one unit, called by the Indians “the river that has no end.” A thin trickle starting near the source of the Mississippi in northern Minnesota finds its way into the St. Lou’s River and thence into Lake Superior, the largest body of fresh water in the world, and more than 600 feet above sea level. It then flows through St.

Mary’s River into Lakes Huron and Michigan. Finding no outlet in the latter, it moves down through Lake St. Claire and the Detroit River into Lake Erie. Each time it passes from one body of water to another, the level drops, and the current is swift and turbulent and dangerous to navigation in its natural state. Most spectacular

projects followed, some by one nation and some by the other—at Detroit, around the Niagara Falls, and in the St. Lawrence. Today only one real barrier remains between the Great Lakes and the sea—the International Rapids around which it is now once more proposed that the St. Lawrence Seaway be built.

or locks over 97 per cent of the distance.

The power development plan is equally important to President Roosevelt and many of his supporters. Both as governor of New York and as President he has envisioned a great hydroelectric program for the Northeast—a sort of international TVA—to be operated as a “yardstick” much in the same manner as TVA in the Southeast, Boulder Dam in the Southwest, and the Columbia River project in the Northwest. The force of the St. Lawrence plunging down the International Rapids at the rate of nearly a quarter of a million cubic feet per second offers the greatest source of power on this continent. Harnessed, it is estimated it would produce 2,200,000 horsepower yearly. Under the terms of present agreements, half of this power would go to the province of Ontario, and half to the state of New York. The latter has agreed to contribute nearly \$90,000,000 to the estimated \$270,000,000 cost of the entire hydroelectric project.

Opposition

Opposition to the plan is strong among two different groups—those who oppose the power plan, and those who oppose the seaway plan. Then there is an overlapping fringe that opposes both.

Dislike of the power plan is chiefly to be noted among the utilities and the conservatives generally in both political parties. They see a real danger to northeastern power companies if the New York State Power Authority gets control of the electric current. The New England states, New York, New Jersey, and part of Pennsylvania, are all within transmission distance of the St. Lawrence project. This region, with a population density five times greater than that of the country as a whole, contains 25,000,000 people. It produces 28 per cent of the nation's manufactures, and pays one-third of the power revenues collected annually. This group opposes further government invasion of the power field.

The other group opposes the seaway on sectional lines. It includes the railroads, a vast and complicated network of which has been built up to carry the Great Lakes traffic east and south. Construction of the St. Lawrence seaway would only further dry up what little traffic they now have, and its effect, they believe, would be tragic. Why spend half a billion to make the railroad situation worse than it already is? they ask in desperation. Coastwise and transatlantic steamship lines operating out of Atlantic and Gulf ports which would suffer loss of tonnage through a diversion of ocean traffic through the St. Lawrence gateway are also to be found in this group. Finally there is the purely sectional opposition (very clearly in evidence in each congressional discussion of the matter) from the Far West, the South, and the Atlantic seaboard. They feel they have nothing to gain, and in some regions the loss of the local railroads, shipping lines, and ports will be the loss of whole communities.

Thus matters stand today. Forces pro and con in Congress are so evenly matched that few political observers will yet hazard a guess as to what the outcome will be when the issue once more comes out on the floor for discussion.

Gold From the Andes

High up in the Andean Mountains, there are gold mines which were worked centuries ago by the Inca Indians. Mining experts know that those mines are still rich; modern machinery could make them extremely productive. But getting heavy machinery over the mountain trails seemed impossible. Llamas, the only beasts of burden which will work in that high altitude, refuse to carry heavy loads. Recently airplanes were used successfully to transport a million pounds of machinery into the Tipuagnia River Valley, over 19,000-foot peaks of the Bolivian Cordillera. It took three months to make all the trips that were necessary. Plans are being made to carry machinery into other valleys in the same region.



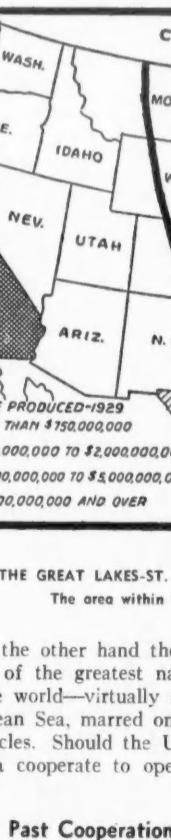
THE SOO LOCKS AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN

More actual tonnage passes through the Soo Locks, linking Lake Superior with Lake Michigan, than through any other marine gateway in the world.

of these bottlenecks is the plunge down the Niagara River and over the famous falls 326 feet down into Lake Ontario. Here the water still has 245 feet to go before it reaches sea level, and it makes up most of this in the treacherous rapids of the St. Lawrence. By the time it has reached the sea, the thin trickle that started in Minnesota has flowed over 2,000 miles.

Here, then, is the problem. On one hand there is one of the richest agricultural and industrial regions in the world seeking an economical outlet for the goods it pro-

duces. On the other hand there taps this region one of the greatest natural waterways in the world—virtually an American Mediterranean Sea, marred only by a few small obstacles. Should the United States and Canada cooperate to open this great waterway?



THE GREAT LAKES-ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY IN RELATION TO MANUFACTURES
The area within the heavy line would be served by the development.

duces. On the other hand there taps this region one of the greatest natural waterways in the world—virtually an American Mediterranean Sea, marred only by a few small obstacles. Should the United States and Canada cooperate to open this great waterway?

Past Cooperation

Nearly a century ago the necessity for some cooperation was clearly foreseen by both governments. In 1818 we withdrew our navy from that region, and less than 50 years later had completed with Canada joint construction of canals and locks between Lake Superior and Lake Huron. Other

which was, as we have already stated, subsequently voted down in the United States Senate.

Cost of the entire seaway project has been estimated at about \$543,429,000, of which the United States would contribute a major part. If completed, it would virtually bring the waters of the Atlantic west to Duluth, convert 25 inland cities into seaports, and add 3,576 miles of coastline to the United States. Major General E. M. Markham, chief of the Army Engineers, has estimated that it would reduce costs to shippers at the rate of \$70,000,000 a year, and would provide 2,600 miles of channels navigable to ocean-going vessels, unrestricted by canals

Congress Passes a Food and Drug Bill

(Concluded from page 1)

The many honest manufacturers did not suffer from the new law, for they had been correctly labeling their products. But the crafty and unscrupulous did not suffer long either. They were quick to find the loopholes and determined that they should not be plugged. This is what they were able to do and did do: They complied with the law; that is to say, they observed it to the extent of truthfully labeling the bottle which they sold. They would call their product, let us say, "Miracle Cream." That would be the trade name. In small letters they would print on the label "thallium acetate." Since they labeled the bottle truthfully, they were within the law. On billboards, in newspapers, and in magazines they would advertise their "Miracle Cream" as a matchless hair remover, harmless, and as a matter of fact, of actual benefit to the skin. The "ads" would be supplemented by glowing testimonials of those who presumably had used the "Miracle Cream" and found it to be perfection itself.

The manufacturers rightly figured that not many people would know the significance of "thallium acetate." It is rat poison. And this is an actual case, with the exception of the trade name which we have invented. Many who used the cream became bald. Others underwent great suffering caused by muscular pains, nerve impairment, and paralysis.

Why Law Is Needed

There are many other worse cases on record, but there is no space to record more than a few. In California 12 women, thinking to reduce their weight, took doses of a product which had been advertised as just the thing for reducing. All were stricken blind. Another young woman went to a beauty parlor to have her eyelashes dyed, only to end up with her eyes burned out and her face horribly disfigured because the chemical compound used happened to be one to which she was susceptible. Others, in an effort to revive health and vigor, have taken a "certified radium water," only to die a terrible death as their bones disintegrated from radium poisoning.

Many people felt strongly that the 1906 Food and Drug Act has been long outmoded and ineffectual. The Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Agriculture set up its offices and laboratories and functioned as best it could within the narrow scope of the law, testing goods, holding examinations, and making reports, but it could not proceed beyond the powers delegated by Congress. Four amendments to the original law strengthened and en-

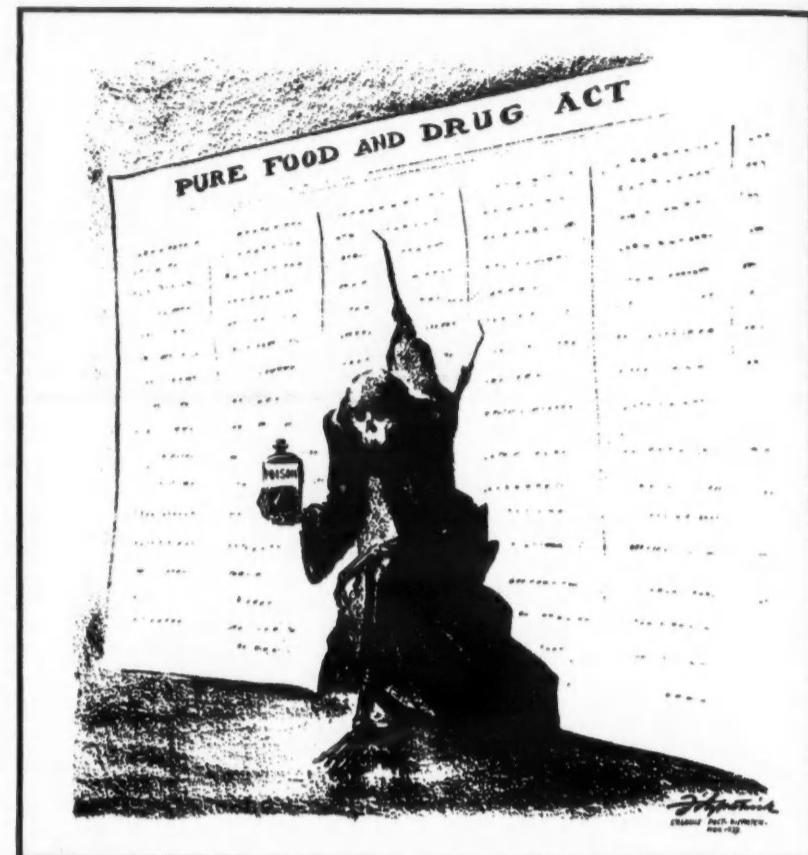
larged the Administration's powers to some degree. The McNary-Mapes amendment, for instance, provided that all canned goods must measure up to a certain standard, or be plainly marked as substandard.

But the Act could not prevent dangerous drugs from being sold. It could not compel truth in advertising. It could not force dangerous cosmetics off the markets. And even under the powers it does have, the Administration is again severely restricted in practice. If it found that a manufacturer has mislabeled a product, for instance, it could bring him before a federal court. But the litigation has been long and drawn out, and the penalties often so trifling as to be ridiculous. In one instance a firm was fined \$10 for distributing decomposed poultry. Other fines as low as one penny have been known. In 1922 a case was brought before the courts wherein one manufacturer who had found that his compound of ammonia, turpentine, water, and egg did not find much of a market as horse liniment, advertised it also as a cure for tuberculosis, pneumonia, and a number of other serious diseases. Since he put these claims on the label, the government could and did proceed against him. But the law reads that the claims must be "false and fraudulent" to be criminal. The government could not prove that the manufacturer, an elderly and dignified gentleman, knew the claims were false. Therefore he was acquitted.

Many people have asked—how could such things be? Why did not the government act? If the 1906 Act was so weak, why was a good law not passed long ago?

One reason has been the failure of the consumer group to act in its own interests. This group is so large that everyone leaves the matter to the next fellow, and no one does anything about it. The group is inarticulate, and timid. Now and then it is stirred to action as in the case of the 93 deaths last year, and public outcry is raised. But by the time the slow machinery of Congress gets into action, public attention is diverted to something else—a kidnapping or war clouds in Europe.

Then it is that the opposition gets busy. When they are sure that public opinion is somewhere else, a small but determined minority emerges from self-sought obscurity and brings pressure to bear on Congress. They approach the advertising agencies and suggest that if a certain food and drug bill goes through, they will be out of business and the agency will lose their profitable account. The big advertising agencies through which most advertising is



WIDE OPEN

FITZPATRICK IN ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

done then apply pressure to the newspapers to oppose the bill. Some, but not all, newspapers give in before this pressure, since a large advertising agency may have the power to break an ordinary paper.

Thus it is that many newspapers have always opposed any effective food and drugs law. Some oppose it naturally. They say that it restricts individual liberty and is therefore un-American.

The act just passed by Congress will, according to its sponsor, Senator Royal S. Copeland of New York, enlarge and strengthen the powers of the Food and Drug Administration and generally plug the loopholes of the 1906 Act. This bill was subject to discussion in Congress for five years, and has been known variously as the Pure Food and Drugs Bill, "S.5," and the Copeland Bill. Its principal features are as follows: (1) Prohibition of drugs which are dangerous when used according to manufacturer's specifications. (2) Requirements that labels bear correct directions for use, and warnings against overuse or misuse. (3) Requirements that labels fully disclose contents of bottle or package. (4) Prohibition of false advertising of foods, drugs, therapeutic devices, and cosmetics. (6) Standards governing identity and quality of foods.

History of Bill

This bill has had a curious history. Introduced in the first year of the New Deal, it was passed by the Senate in 1935, and by the House in 1936. Then it went into conference (a group representing both House and Senate which irons out differences between bills passed by the two bodies) and died there. The dispute was then mainly over who should regulate food and drug advertising, the Food and Drug Administration or the Federal Trade Commission. That issue was settled in March when amendments to the Federal Trade Act gave the latter jurisdiction over food and drug advertising.

Then the House passed another bill, and the Senate having repassed its own bill last year, the matter went into conference again. There it remained until last week when the conferees finally reached an agreement.

The chief point of difference between the House and Senate this time involved administration of the new Act once it passed. Under the Senate bill, the secretary

of agriculture would set up reasonable standards for foods and their processing and issue regulations which manufacturers would have to comply with or face prosecution in the courts. The House Bill, on the other hand, provided that any individual who felt himself to be adversely affected by an order or regulation of the secretary, could within 90 days seek an injunction in a federal district court. If he were granted an injunction, enforcement of the regulation would become impossible anywhere in the United States, even if similar injunctions had been refused by every other judge.

"Joker" Eliminated

It was this "joker" that aroused such a furor over the bill, for in practice it meant that every order and regulation would be so mired down in injunctions and court suits that the Act could never be enforced. Secretary Wallace announced that it would hamstring the entire Act, and it would be much better to leave matters as they were under the 1906 legislation. Liberals and other consumer groups agreed. One of the largest of the latter stated bluntly that the bill might well have been written by the most disreputable patent medicine industries, and that it was "a gross and willful betrayal of consumer interests."

In conference, however, this objectionable provision was modified to read that the secretary's order would merely be subject to court review as to whether he had proceeded properly, as are the orders of most federal agencies. Under the Act as passed, if any substantial group of industries feels it has been adversely affected by orders or regulations, it can apply to the circuit courts. If no appeal is made within 90 days, the regulation becomes permanent. But if an appeal is made within that time, the courts either reverse, modify or uphold the secretary's order.

With the "joker" eliminated, the new Act is regarded by many as a substantial improvement over the old. Officials of the Department of Agriculture, and many members of the House and Senate have signified their approval, for although the new Act is neither complete nor perfect, it will provide, better than the old law, an equitable base for future legislation. It is believed that the President will sign the bill, and consumer groups will closely watch the operation of the law during coming months.

Smiles

Mother: "Do you know what happens to little girls who don't tell the truth?"

Small Daughter: "Yes, they grow up and tell their little girls they'll get curly hair if they eat bread crusts." —CAPPER'S WEEKLY

Wife: "Dear, I am going to take up horseback riding, it increases your social standing so much."

Husband: "Well, I don't know about the social part, but I'll guarantee it to increase your standing." —SELECTED

First Mechanic: "Which do you prefer, leather or fabric upholstery?"

Second Mechanic: "I like fabrics; leather is too hard to wipe your hands on." —GRIT

"You say this will be your farewell appearance?" asked the interviewer.

"Yes," replied the famous actress, "I shall retire from the stage, never to return to it."

"What's your reason for such a decision?"

"My manager thinks it better for business to make every other tour a farewell engagement." —SELECTED

Visitor: "What a sweet and innocent looking face your little girl has, Mrs. Brown."

Mrs. Brown: "I hadn't noticed it. Mary, what have you been doing?" —INDEPENDENT FORESTER



"JUST BE PATIENT—THE HOUR IS ALMOST UP"

JAMME IN COLLIER'S